ASNT Central Certification Program Description

1.0 Scope

This document details the system for ASNT Central Certification Program (ACCP) Level II and ACCP Professional Level III certification of nondestructive testing (NDT) personnel as administered and maintained by the American Society for Nondestructive Testing (ASNT). The purpose of this program is to provide independent, third party NDT certification that meets the requirements detailed in the ASNT Central Certification Program document CP-1. The nondestructive test (NDT) methods available are listed below:

Magnetic Particle Testing (MT)
Liquid Penetrant Testing (PT)
Radiographic Testing (RT)
Ultrasonic Testing (UT)
Visual Testing (VT)

2.0 Definitions

2.1 ACCP certification: The process whereby ASNT certifies that an individual has met the requirements of the ASNT Central Certification Program document CP-1.

2.2 ACCP Level II: An individual who, having passed the ASNT administered examinations as defined in Section 5 of this document and holds a current, valid ACCP Level II certificate in at least one technique within an applicable test method.

2.3 ACCP Professional Level III: An individual who has passed the ASNT administered examinations as defined in Section 5 of this document and who holds a current, valid ACCP Professional Level III certificate in at least one of the applicable test methods.

2.4 Certification: Written testimony of qualification.

2.5 Certification Examinations: written or practical examinations as defined in section 5 of this document that have been developed and administered by ASNT to confirm qualification.

2.6 Employer: the corporate, private, or public entity that employs personnel for wages or salary and authorizes personnel to perform NDT.

2.7 Examination, Specific: a written examination on specifications, equipment, techniques and procedures applicable to specific Industry Sectors, product(s) and test methods.

2.8 Experience: work activities accomplished in a specific NDT method under the direction of qualified supervision including the performance of the method and related activities but not including time spent in organized training programs.

2.9 Qualification: demonstration or possession of education, skills, training, knowledge, and experience required for personnel to properly perform NDT to a level as specified in this document

2.10 Recertification: The process of extending one's period of certification by examination.

2.11 Renewal: The process of extending one's period of certification by documenting continuous satisfactory performance and/or demonstration of the combination of active employment and continuing participation/education in NDT.

2.12 Training: an organized program developed to impart the knowledge and skills necessary for qualification.

3.0 Certification Outcome

3.1 An ACCP Level II shall have the skills and knowledge to set up and calibrate equipment, to conduct tests, and to interpret, evaluate, and document results in accordance with procedures approved by an ACCP Professional Level III or ASNT NDT Level III. An ACCP Level II shall be thoroughly familiar with the scope and limitations of the method to which certified and should be capable of directing the work of trainees and Level I personnel. An ACCP Level II shall be able to organize and report NDT results. An ACCP Level II shall be capable of developing an instruction in conformance with a procedure.

3.2 An ACCP Professional Level III shall have the skills and knowledge to establish techniques, to interpret codes, standards, and specifications, to designate the particular technique to be used, and to prepare or approve procedures and instructions. An ACCP Professional Level III shall also have general familiarity with other NDT methods. An ACCP Professional Level III shall be capable of conducting or directing the training and examination of NDT personnel in the methods for which the ACCP Professional Level III is qualified. An ACCP Professional Level III shall have knowledge of materials, fabrication, and product technology in order to establish techniques and to assist in establishing acceptance criteria when none are otherwise available.

4.0 Eligibility for Examination

4.1 ASNT has no restrictions relative to the gender, creed, race or nationality of applicants.

4.2 Candidates shall have a combination of education, training, and experience in accordance with the ASNT document CP-1.

4.3 When applying for examination(s), the candidate shall document the validity of the personal information provided including education, training, and experience needed to establish eligibility.

4.4 The candidate shall agree to abide by the applicable code of ethics for ACCP personnel.

5.0 Qualification Examinations

5.1 All ASNT Level II Candidates must successfully complete the following examinations:

5.1.1 General Written Examination: this examination covers the fundamentals, principals and theory of the test method.

5.1.2 Specific Written Examination: covers specific applications of the test method in accordance with the applicable codes and standards used in the applicable Industry Sector.

5.1.3 Practical Examination: applicants are required to demonstrate their ability to physically perform the test method on ASNT test samples that may contain known discontinuities.

5.1.4 Instruction Preparation Examination: applicants are required to prepare a written instruction for the test method that is sufficiently detailed to permit another practitioner to recreate that inspection.

5.2 All ASNT Professional Level III Candidates must successfully complete the following examinations:

5.2.1 Basic Examination: this examination covers knowledge of certification processes, materials and processes and general knowledge of other NDT methods.

5.2.2 Method Examination(s): covers specific knowledge of that test method(s).

5.2.3 Practical Examination: applicants are required to demonstrate their ability to perform the test method on test samples containing known discontinuities. (This examination is waived for personnel that have taken the Practical Examination as an ACCP Level II.)

5.2.4 Procedure Preparation Examination: applicants are required to write an NDT procedure based on a supplied NDT standard.

6.0 Examination Results

6.1 Candidates that pass all required examinations for ACCP certification, shall be issued certification documents as described in 7.0, Certification.

6.2 For candidates that take examinations through an educational or training facility prior to having gained the required experience, ASNT will issue examination results by letter only and not by certificate. Upon documentation of experience ASNT will issue certification documents as described in 7.0, Certification.

6.3 For candidates that pass only a portion of the required examinations, ASNT will send written notification of results and will issue certification documents as described in 7.0, Certification, when all examinations have been successfully completed.

7.0 Certification

7.1 Based on successful completion of the necessary qualification examinations, ASNT will issue the candidate an ACCP certificate and wallet card.

7.2 ACCP certification attests to an individual having satisfied the requirements of this document; however, ASNT does not give authority or license to that individual to perform NDT. The employer should review the individual's qualification records for satisfactory completeness and retain copies thereof, prior to authorizing the individual to perform NDT. The employer shall be solely responsible for authorizing employees to perform NDT.

7.3 Certificates and wallet cards are owned solely by ASNT and shall be returned to ASNT if revoked.

8.0 Validity

8.1 Certification shall be valid for a period of (5) years, at which point recertification or renewal is required in order to maintain certification

8.2 Certification shall be invalid and subsequently revoked if ASNT finds after reviewing evidence that the individual has violated the applicable code of ethics.

9.0 Renewal/Recertification

9.1 Renewal or recertification is required at 5-year intervals and must be submitted prior to the expiration date shown on the currently valid ACCP certificate. All certificate holders must recertify at 10-year intervals as described in paragraph 9.3.

9.2 Renewal may be accomplished by submitting documented proof of continuous satisfactory performance for ACCP Level II personnel, and by demonstrating a combination of active employment and continuing participation/education in NDT for ACCP Professional Level III personnel.

9.3 Recertification may be accomplished in one of the following two ways:

9.3.1 For ACCP Level II personnel, by taking an abbreviated practical examination in each test method in which certification is held.

9.3.2 For ACCP Professional Level III personnel, by taking an abbreviated written examination.

10.0 Applicant Rights

10.1 Appeals, Complaints, and Disputes: An appeals process exists for the resolution of appeals, complaints, and disputes received from candidates, certified persons and their employers and other parties about the certification process, qualification criteria, and the performance of certified persons.

10.2 Confidentiality: Information gained in the course of the certification process shall not be disclosed to any third party except as required by law.

11.0 Program Changes

Changes to the ASNT NDT Level II program are posted on the ASNT Internet website, at www.asnt.org under the “Certification” link, and are published in the ASNT monthly periodical, Materials Evaluation magazine.

12.0 Accommodation for Disabilities

ASNT will make appropriate accommodations for persons with documented disabilities. Candidates should contact the ASNT Technical Services Department prior to the examinations to discuss accommodations.